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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/765,232	01/26/2004	Aaron Stephen Meyers	310480.01	1750
22971	7590	10/18/2007		
MICROSOFT CORPORATION ONE MICROSOFT WAY REDMOND, WA 98052-6399			EXAMINER PAULA, CESAR B	
			ART UNIT 2178	PAPER NUMBER
			NOTIFICATION DATE 10/18/2007	DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/765,232	Applicant(s) MEYERS ET AL.	
	Examiner CESAR B. PAULA	Art Unit 2178	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 November 2006.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7,9-15,18-21 and 24-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-7, 9-15, 18-21,24-37 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to the amendment filed on 11/30/2006.

This action is made Final.

2. In the amendment, claims 2, 8, 16-17, and 22-23 have been canceled. Claims 36-37 have been added. Claims 1,3-7, 9-15, 18-21,24-37 are pending in the case. Claims 1, 21, and 34-35 are independent claims.

Priority

3. Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. 120. This application is a CIP of US application No.10/627,180 filed on 7/25/2003.

Drawings

4. The drawings filed on 1/26/2004 have been accepted by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The rejections of claims 15-17 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, have been withdrawn as necessitated by the amendment.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

6. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

7. Claims 1-3, and 9-15, 18-21, 24-35 remain, and 36-37 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Getting Results with Microsoft Office 97, hereinafter Office, Microsoft Corp. 1997, pages 448-457, 563-573, new pages 169-178.

Regarding independent claim 1, Office discloses the creation, a displaying of a pivot table views, of a database, for different sales representative, and for displaying data found in a database in a quick way. The pivot table includes several page fields, rows, columns, cells for relating the numerical data to be found in various views or reports, textual descriptions explaining the categories found in the database, the views, the fields and how the data relate to each other, such as month to month, representative's name, etc., (pages 563-568)-- *accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations.*

Furthermore, Office teaches a wizard for the generation of a pivot table report which has a drop-down button to discover the data hidden in the database, which for example allows you to

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view the summary for each salesperson found in the database in a company (page 565, 568)--
providing a user interface for creating a report that includes at least one drill link.

Regarding claim 3, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses the creation, and publishing of a pivot table over the web using the HTML format (pages 448-449, 546, 563-568).

Regarding claim 9, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to see the names to several salespersons, so that the selection of a name displays a different data view—*a second report* (page 568).

Regarding claim 10, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to see the names to several salespersons, which are not displayed in the pivot table data view—*the drill link includes a reference to an object not associated with the relational abstraction* (page 568).

Regarding claim 11, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to see the names to several salespersons, as found in the Excel database—*the drill link includes a reference to a computer program* (page 546, 563, 568).

Regarding claim 12, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button is displayed in the pivot table data view, for displaying buried or hidden data concerning

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— *the drill link includes a reference to information about the report that includes the drill link*
(page 568).

Regarding claim 13, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to see the names to several salespersons, which are not displayed in the pivot table data view— *the drill link includes a reference to a context of the drill link within the report.*
(page 568).

Regarding claim 14, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to see the names to several salespersons, which allows you to display data related to the names— *the drill link includes key values identifying a particular value within the report* (page 568).

Regarding claim 15, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list— *the drill link is additionally associated with an object of the relational abstraction, the object having a base view is a destination view of the last relation in the sequence* (page 568).

Regarding claim 18, which depends on claim 1, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list— *the drill link includes a reference to an object that is based upon at least one*

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relational abstraction object having a base view that is a destination view of a relation in the sequence (page 568).

Regarding claim 19, which depends on claim 18, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list. The data corresponding to the various names is displayed onto the table— *the reference is to a report template (page 568).*

Regarding claim 20, which depends on claim 18, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name—*an expression--* selected last from the drop-down list (page 568).

Regarding independent claim 21, Office discloses the creation, a displaying of a pivot table views, of a database, for different sales representative, and for displaying data found in a database in a quick way. The pivot table includes several page fields, rows, columns, cells for relating the numerical data to be found in various views or reports, textual descriptions explaining the categories found in the database, the views, the fields and how the data relate to each other, such as month to month, representative's name, etc., (pages 563-568)-- *accessing a relational abstraction of a data store, the relational abstraction including a plurality of views, scalar or aggregate fields associated with the views, relations between the views, and metadata layer that includes one or more objects that contain properties describing the data store, the views, the fields, and the relations.*

Furthermore, Office teaches a wizard for the generation of a pivot table report which has a drop-down button to discover the data hidden in the database, which for example allows you to view the summary for each salesperson found in the database in a company. The summary is displayed as you select one of various names displayed by the button (page 565, 568)--
generating a report that includes at least one drill link associated with a sequence of zero or more relations originating at a base view of the relational abstraction.....

Regarding claim 24, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name—*an expression*-- selected last from the drop-down list (page 568).

Regarding claim 25, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list. The data corresponding to the various names is displayed onto the table—*the reference is to a report template* (page 568).

Regarding claim 26, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list. The data corresponding to the various names is displayed onto the table—*the reference is to another report* (page 568).

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Regarding claim 27, which depends on claim 25, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list. The data corresponding to the various names is displayed onto the table— *a plurality of templates* (page 568).

Regarding claim 28, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using a name selected last from the drop-down list. The data is displayed onto a table relating the various data (page 568).

Regarding claim 29, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using various names selected last from the drop-down list— *reference to the first report* (page 568).

Regarding claim 30, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve data from the database using various names selected last from the drop-down list— *reference to the second report* (page 568).

Regarding claim 31, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve the names to be displayed on the pivot table— *the drill link includes a reference to the context of the drill link within the first report* (page 568).

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Regarding claim 32, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve the values associated with names from the database on the drop-down-list (page 568).

Regarding claim 33, which depends on claim 21, Office discloses that the drop-down button allows you to retrieve the names to be displayed on the pivot table (page 568). The names are used to filter information related to the selected names.

Claims 34-35 are directed towards a computer system for implementing the steps found in claims 1, and 21 respectively, and therefore is are similarly rejected.

Regarding claim 36, which depends on claim 10, Office discloses generating a Word report from Excel format, and including hyperlinks to other data (page 169-175) --*the drill link includes a reference to a web page.*

Regarding claim 37, which depends on claim 12, Office discloses generating a Word report from Excel format, and including hyperlinks to other data (page 169-175) --*the drill link includes a reference to a location of the report.*

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

8. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

9. Claims 4-6 remain rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Office.

Regarding claim 4, which depends on claim 2, Office discloses the creation, and publishing of a pivot table over the web using the HTML format (pages 448-449, 546, 563-568). Office fails to explicitly teach *the report format is DHTML format*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have converted Excel to DHTML, and , for all the reasons found in Office , including taking advantage of the tabular structure of Excel to publish documents over the web, and taking advantage of the features found in DHTML.

Regarding claim 5, which depends on claim 2, Office discloses the creation, and publishing of a pivot table over the web using the HTML format (pages 448-449, 546, 563-568). Office fails to explicitly teach *the report format is XML format*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have converted Excel to XML, and , for all the reasons found in Office , including taking advantage of the tabular

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structure of Excel to publish documents over the web, and taking advantage of the features found in XML.

Regarding claim 6, which depends on claim 2, Office discloses the creation, and publishing of a pivot table over the web using the HTML format (pages 448-449, 546, 563-568). Office fails to explicitly teach *the report format is PDF format*. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have converted Excel to PDF, and , for all the reasons found in Office, including taking advantage of the tabular structure of Excel to publish documents over the web, and taking advantage of the portability features found in PDF.

10. Claim 7 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable Office, in view of Savage(USPub. # 2004/0075683 A1, 4/22/2004, filed on 10/16/2002).

Regarding claim 7, which depends on claim 2, Office discloses the creation, and publishing of a pivot table over the web using the HTML format (pages 448-449, 546, 563-568). Office fails to explicitly teach *the report is SVG format*. However, Savage teaches creating graphical reports using SVG format. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to have combined Office, and , for all the reasons found in Savage, including the creation of graphics which are lightweight and powerful (0039).

Response to Arguments

11. Applicant's arguments filed 11/30/2006 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to applicant's argument concerning claim 1, in that the references fail to show certain features of applicant's invention, it is noted that the features upon which applicant relies (i.e., The Applicant indicates that the fields, views, and relations are not determined in Office by the relational abstraction, but by the creator of the pivot table (page 11, parag.6)) are not recited in the rejected claim(s). Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993).

The Applicant indicates that “[I]n Office, actions cannot be performed utilizing the relational abstraction that includes information about the views, fields, and the relations between the views.” (page 12, parag.1). The Examiner disagrees, because Office shows that the pivot table includes several page fields, rows, columns, cells for relating the numerical data to be found in various views or reports, textual descriptions explaining the categories found in the database, the views, the fields and how the data relate to each other, such as month to month, representative's name, etc., (pages 563-568).

Moreover, the Applicant submits that Office's drop-down button is not a drill link (page 12, parag.3). The Examiner disagrees because the drop-down button in Office allows a user to

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uncover data that is hidden or buried in the database, thereby drilling down into the database to get such data by using the drop-down button.

Moreover, the Applicant submits that Office does not teach accessing a relational abstraction of a data store (page 13, parag.1). The Examiner disagrees because Office discloses the creation, a displaying of a pivot table views, of a database, for different sales representative, and for displaying data found in a database in a quick way. The pivot table includes several page fields, rows, columns, cells for relating the numerical data to be found in various views or reports, textual descriptions explaining the categories found in the database, the views, the fields and how the data relate to each other, such as month to month, representative's name, etc., (pages 563-568).

Claims 3-7, 9-15, and 18-20 are rejected at least based on their dependency on claim 1, and the rationale above.

Claims 21, and 34-35 are rejected at least based the rationale above regarding claim 1.

Conclusion

12. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire **THREE MONTHS** from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within **TWO**

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MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

I. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the Examiner should be directed to Cesar B. Paula whose telephone number is (571) 272-4128. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (EST).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Hong, can be reached on (571) 272-4124. However, in such a case, please allow at least one business day.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, go to <http://portal.uspto.gov/external/portal/pair>. Should you have any questions about access to the Private PAIR system, please contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866 217-9197 (toll-free).

Any response to this Action should be mailed to:

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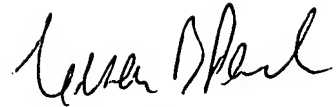
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10/12/2007
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